From June 2016
(Volume 65)

June 2016.

Lynn and I re-booked our US Road Trip that we unfortunately had to cancel last year. We decided to research our proposed schedule which we tailored around what we wanted the Road Trip to include. This was as follows:

The 'real non-touristy America' , including some special features: wide open prairies with endless (traffic-free) roads, waking to the sun rising in Monument Valley, some family fun like rodeos, ball games and local fairs. We partly booked from here, checking locations on the internet and in some cases actually speaking to local people to seek their input. This was great fun and our dream slowly took shape.

We decided to start in Montana (the state of 'big skies') and we flew to Seattle (in Washington state) where we spent one night. We then flew on to Helena in Montana (which is the capital city but small and delightful). Helena was the only Montana city where we could pick up our car without having to return it to the collection location.

We intended to speak to people throughout our travels and seek their advise regarding routes to take, places to eat, fairs and festivals to enjoy and towns, museums. National Parks etc to visit. This worked so well and we made lots of great friends on our travels and their advise led us to National Parks where tourists were very thin on the ground and in most cases were even more spectacular than the famous parks.

Our choices of accommodation was so varied but all were fantastic in their own way. From basic motel-style rooms behind a garage, to wonderful Victorian-style houses beautifully furnished and to wooden mountain lodges and on to Tipis under the red cliffs with wet room and full facilities to modern hotels and to 14th floor beautiful rooms overlooking Las Vegas.

Our car was a Cherokee Jeep which ended up looking very 'tired' due to driving off road on dusty rock-filled roads full of pot-holes. It served us well and we covered nearly 3000 miles going through 6 states: Washington, Montana, Wyoming, Utah Arizona & Nevada.

The problem now is to take out the 'selected shots' from my masses of photos to insert into this 'Photo History' . I think I will have to be ruthless and reduce them to three books and this will be difficult ...but fun. I also have loads of videos which I am going to try to join together so Lynn and I can re-live what was probably the most memorable trip we have ever made

Seattle waterfront (lots of renovation in progress)

Day 1...20th June 2016

The Famous waterfront Pike Market

Char-grilled salmon was their speciality

Lynn as official taster of Denny's new breakfast dish…. New! Buttermilk Pancakes

Our old pancakes were fine, but America deserved better. So, we reworked our recipe. Added good stuff like fresh buttermilk, real eggs, flour and a hint of vanilla. The result? Our 50% fluffier pancakes just might be better than home.

Day 2…Arriving in Helena (Montana) we were in time to see the local baseball game and enjoyed a burger there…

Bert Ernies in Helena...with it's signature great ribeye steak

Helena has so many delightful buildings and it was a pleasure walking round leisurely

The Barrister's Bed & Breakfast where Nick, together with sister Leanne made us very welcome

The wonderful cathedral next to Barrister's

Barrister's was filled with a collection of Victorian antiques and there were even period handbags in the wardrobe

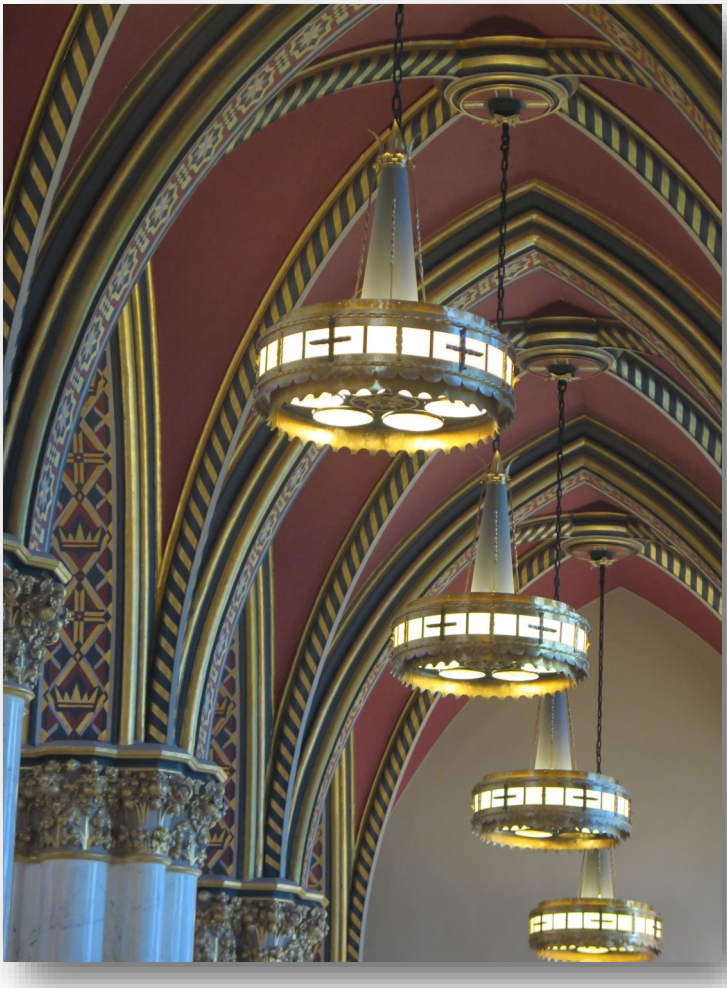
...as it used to be

Some of the fascinating houses all around Helena

TWO HOUR TIME LIMIT
TIME
EXPIRED
TOKEN OR
5 10 25
DUNCAN
METER
INSERT COIN.
TURN HANDLE TO RIGHT
AS FAR AS POSSIBLE
AFTER EACH COIN.

KOR 294

The stained glass windows for the Cathedral were made and installed by the F.X. Zettler Firm of Munich By the time the Cathedral was dedicated, 46 of the planned 59 windows had been installed. The Zettler Firm claimed that the 37-window set, which told the Christian story from the fall of Adam & Eve to the Church in the early years of the 20th century, surpassed any windows which it had made during its first 50 years. The remaining windows in the were installed by 1926. Nick told us that as merchant ships were under fire during the war the remaining windows were buried in Germany and delivered after the war



Helena is a quiet city situated in a beautiful valley with hills all the way round

Helena's attractive library had a busy café in the foyer and was staffed with friendly staff and had many child-friendly attractions

The Parrot...one of Helena's popular attractions with great shakes and a traditional juke box

In a city with no visible Moslems population we were surprised to see this mosque but it turned out to be a Moorish Revival building built in 1919. The building served as a meeting hall for the Algeria Shriners and it now The Helena Civic Centre

Gold was discovered in 1864 in a creek bed along what today is Helena's downtown main street, Last Chance Gulch. This sparked a cultural and building boom that lasted 30 years and Helena became the state capital. The city grew from south to north along Last Chance Gulch, its main street, and we were fascinated by the great variety of architectural styles

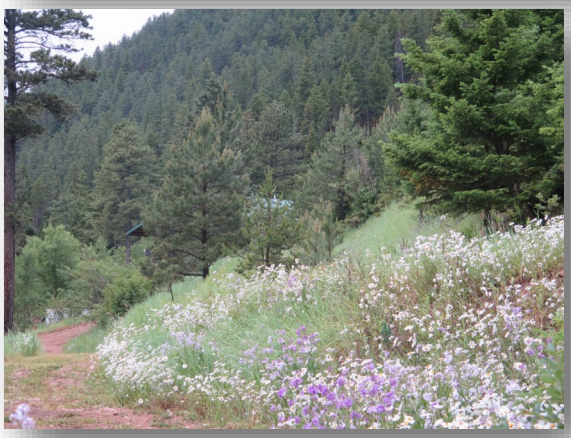
We were advised to drive round Canyon Ferry which is a lake east of Helena formed when the Missouri River was damned in a narrow valley.. It was very peaceful and attractive

Osprey with young on their nest

On the road to Lewistown via Great Falls and The Flesher Pass

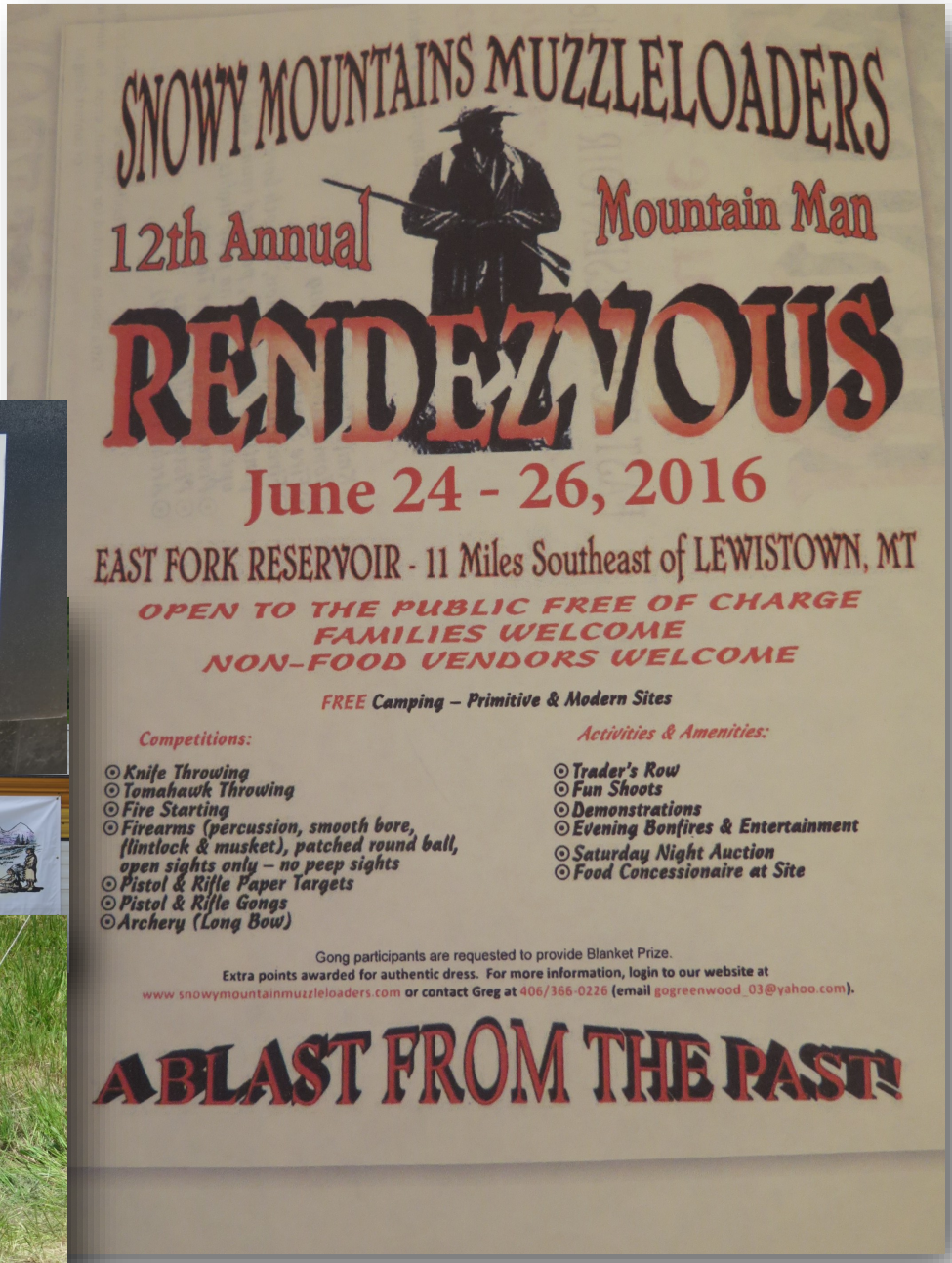
Big skies and the open road...and no traffic

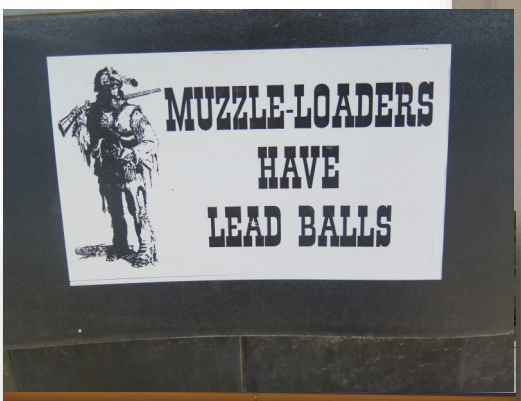
On June 25th we arrived at Judith Mountain Lodge above Lewistown after an 8 mile rough track road in pouring rain. Boy were we glad to see it….and the weather improved too

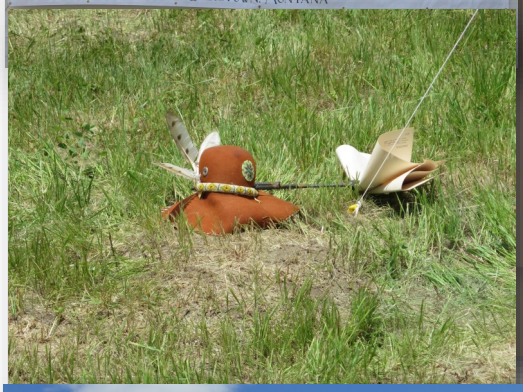


A warm welcome from Martha and family in a lovely setting

Sue, at Lewistown Chamber of Commerce, had sent us this flier so we were determined to visit it and it was very different.







This is an annual event and we were so lucky to have been here when it was on

table for combining the sheriff and coroner positions.
The Fergus County Community Council then passed a motion to "recommend the county commissioners direct the county

A blast from times past:
Mountain man rendezvous this weekend

By NEWS-ARGUS STAFF

Step back in time and join the Snowy Mountain Muzzleloaders at East Fork Reservoir for an exciting weekend filled with activities of the mid-1800s.

There will be pistol and rifle paper matches (patched round ball, open iron sights only), trail walk gong shoots (pistol and rifle), knife and tomahawk throwing, and archery (longbows only). Participants are encouraged to dress in clothing reflective of the frontier era of the early to mid 1800s.

Activities began Friday with the opening ceremony and competitive events. Another full day of competition and activities will continue today, Saturday. Activities on Saturday will close with a live auction of items generously donated by club members, vendors, rendezvous participants, and individuals and businesses throughout the local community.

The auction will be followed by entertainment and socializing around a bonfire. Competitors will be given the opportunity to complete one event on Sunday morning. Points will hen be tallied and prizes awarded.

Mountain men prepare for a shooting competition at a Snowy Mountain Muzzleloader's rendezvous

News-Argus

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ITOR@LEWISTOWNNEWS.COM 406-535-3401 OBITUARIES: M. HENNINGS • N. CARTE

Some of the great characters we met at the rendezvous

Photo History

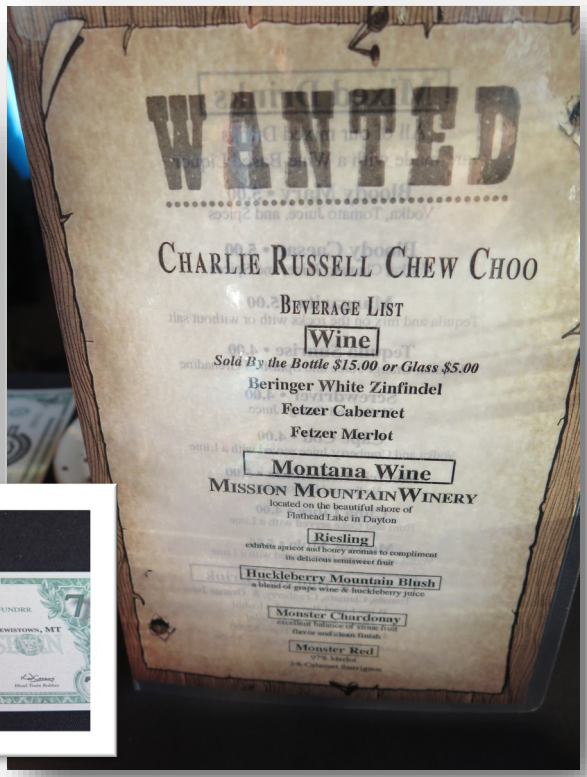
Lewistown is an agricultural community located at the geographic center of Montana in the vast Judith Basin. The town has many well-preserved historic businesses and homes. Although mostly rolling prairie, farms and ranches, the Lewistown area features five beautiful mountain ranges, the Snowies, the Judiths, the Moccasins, the Belts, and the Highwoods

The long dusty road into Lewistown

Around Lewistown

Many of the stores were empty and Lewistown was very quiet and sad. The population currently is around 5,900

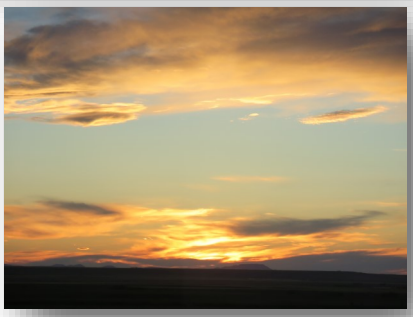
Below is a shot of Lewistown in 1912 and many of the grand buildings now standing empty showed it had been a grand town in its day



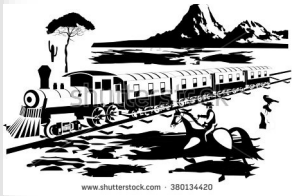
Montana's Dinner Train, the Charlie Russell Chew Choo

The Charlie Russell Chew Choo follows the route of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific railroad. This is a spur line built from 1912-1913 connecting Lewistown to Great Falls. On the dinner train travels 56 miles round trip in approximately 3 ½ hours. Boarding is several miles outside of Lewistown and than travels to the town of Denton and back. It crossed two breath-taking trestles (viaducts) and passed through a half mile long tunnel, We were entertained by Sid Napier a great singer of outlaw tails. The scenery was rich farm land, rough terrain and bountiful wildlife.

Sue, from The Chamber of Commerce welcomed us aboard



….great crowd…great music….great steaks

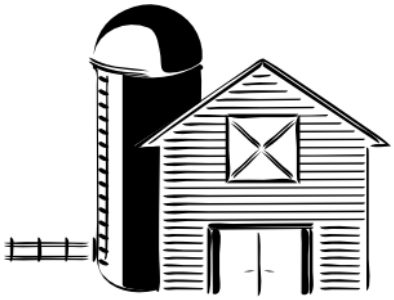


….then all of a sudden….

...our train got attacked

Darned if those critters didn't hold up our train and the bar girls hassled me (well I guess there's always a 'plus' side)

Leaving Lewistown we passed these majestic grain elevators prior to entering Lewis & Clark Park which was a beautiful enormous park that is not very well known and correspondingly quiet



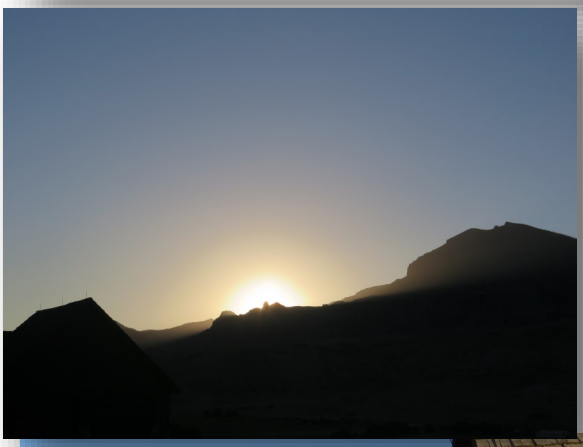
In many of the secluded RV areas in Lewis & Carol Park families like this enjoy a vacation in wonderful surroundings. They proudly showed us round their massive RV

After a long drive we arrived at Cody, in Park County, Wyoming, It is named after William Frederick Cody, better known as Buffalo Bill, from his part in the creation of the original town. The population was 9,520 at the 2010 . It was buzzing and lots of 'pimped' cars along the lively streets

Cody, Wyoming

Rod (A Yellowstone Guide) and wife Suzie were our hosts at Wapiti (meaning Elk) just outside Cody. We had a delightful self contained cottage below the hills in wonderful countryside and Suzie made a wonderful breakfast in their stylish home. Elk grazed by the river below and it was totally quiet (other than their donkey and horses. They also had 2 Labradors and two cats that insisted on sitting on my map as I planned our onward journey

The grazing elk went uphill past our cottage from the river here



Rod had advised us where to go in Yellowstone (using his experience as a Yellowstone guide and one of his tips was to get a lunch pack from Pete's in Cody...this was enormous and we still were eating it that night

Lynn enjoying one of Suzie's famous breakfasts.

We entered by the North Eastern entrance and our first stop was walking along Soda Butte Creek and up to Trour Lake where (as promised) the local cut throat trour were spawning

A lone wolf just leaving the wooded area

Elk grazing

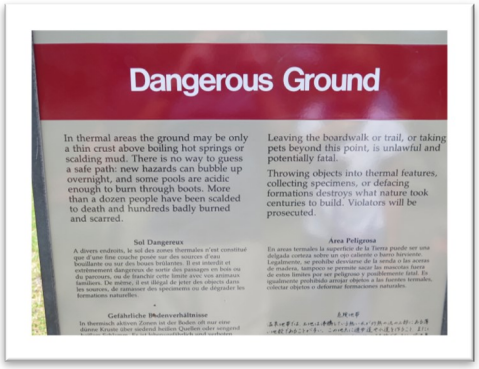
A herd of bison grazing

A lone bison grazing

Enjoying our packed lunch by a small brook

Views across to Yellowstone Lake

Mammoth Hot Springs



Dangerous Ground

In thermal areas the ground may be only a thin crust above boiling hot springs or scalding mud. There is no way to guess a safe path: new hazards can bubble up overnight, and some pools are acidic enough to burn through boots. More than a dozen people have been scalded to death and hundreds badly burned and scarred.

Leaving the boardwalk or trail, or taking pets beyond this point, is unlawful and potentially fatal.

Throwing objects into thermal features, collecting specimens, or defacing formations destroys what nature took centuries to build. Violators will be prosecuted.

Sol Dangereux

A divers endroits, le sol des zones thermales n'est constitué que d'une fine couche posée sur des sources d'eau bouillante ou sur des boues brûlantes. Il est interdit et extrêmement dangereux de sortir des passages en bois ou du parcours, ou de franchir cette limite avec vos animaux familiers. De même, il est illégal de jeter des objects dans les sources, de ramasser des spécimens ou de dégrader les formations naturelles.

Area Peligrosa

En areas termales la superficie de la Tierra puede ser una delgada corteza sobre un ojo caliente o barro hirviente. Legalmente, se prohibe desviarse de la senda o las acerras de madera, tampoco se puede cruzar con sus mascotas de estos límites por ser peligroso y posiblemente fatal. Es igualmente prohibido arrojar objetos a las fuentes termales, coleccionar objetos o deformar formaciones naturales.

Gefährliche Bodenverhältnisse

In thermisch aktiven Zonen ist der Boden oft nur eine dünne Kruste über siedend heißen Quellen oder sengend

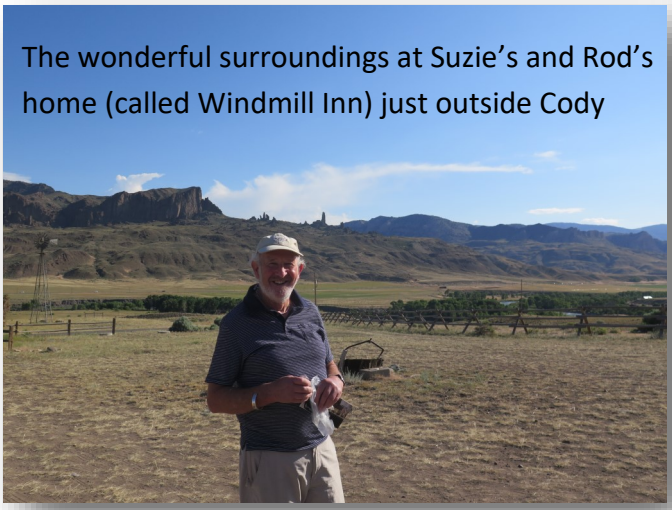
...often the roads were endless with no traffic either way for miles...this was a really unique driving experience for us. At one point the sat-nav said " turn left at junction and follow 191 for 185 miles"..

.....that was a first...

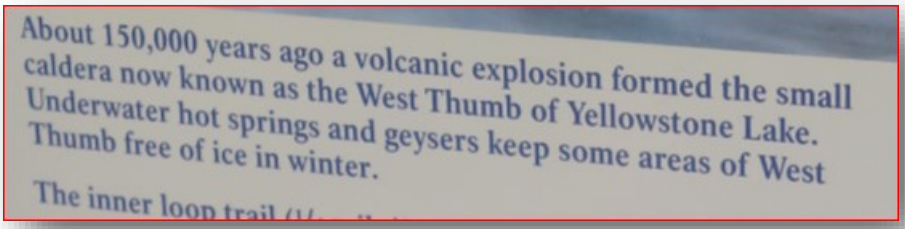
The crowds waiting for 'Old Faithful' to erupt and also the crowded Old Faithful Inn. This touristy side of The National Parks was not really for us and we found great alternatives that were much

less crowded

...yet another one of Suzie's legendary breakfasts



The wonderful surroundings at Suzie's and Rod's home (called Windmill Inn) just outside Cody



About 150,000 years ago a volcanic explosion formed the small caldera now known as the West Thumb of Yellowstone Lake. Underwater hot springs and geysers keep some areas of West Thumb free of ice in winter.

The inner loop trail

West Geyser Basin was a less well-known location and the colours of the 'paintpots' bubbling away were attractive yet daunting

Racing back from a 350 mile circuit of Yellowstone we were still just in time to make the Cody Rodeo, which was a fun family evening

Photo History

Soul Café, Pinedale Wyoming A great breakfast en route to Jackson

BREAKFAST

Rancher Skillet.....$11.50
Eggs, potatoes, ham, bacon, sausage, onion, and cheese served with tortillas or your choice of 9 Grain or Sourdough Toast.
Veggie Skillet.....$8.75

Omelets Served with skillet potatoes and 9 grain or sourdough toast
2-Egg----- Cheese---Your choice of Bacon ,ham or Sausage.....$9.95
3-Egg-----Cheese-----Your Choice of Bacon, Ham or Sausage.....$10.75
Add Assorted Veggies.....$0.75
Cheese and Assorted Veggies/No Meat.....2-Egg.....$7.95
3-Egg.....$8.75

Heart & Soul Omelet
Our house special with tender fresh asparagus, feta cheese and fresh baby spinach.....$10.95 served with Skillet Potatoes your choice of sourdough or 9 grain toast

Country Style Breakfast
2 Egg Breakfast Your Choice of Bacon, Ham or Sausage with Skillet Potatoes and choice of 9 Grain or Sourdough Toast.....$9.50
2-Poached Eggs Served on an English Muffin with Skillet Potatoes.....$7.95
Add Bacon, Ham or Sausage.....$3.00

Eggs Benedict
Two eggs, Canadian Bacon served on an English Muffin with Homemade Hollandaise Sauce and Skillet Potatoes.....$9.95
Two eggs ,Spinach, Sliced Tomato on an English Muffin, Hollandaise Sauce.....$7.95 and skillet Potatoes

Biscuits & Gravy
Two Home Baked Buttery Biscuits smothered in Sausage Gravy.....$9.50
Half Order.....$5.50
Add a meat choice of Bacon,Ham, or Sausage.....$3.00

Breakfast Burrito
Large flour tortilla filled with egg, potatoes, cheese and your choice of Bacon, Sausage or ham-Salsa on the side.....$9.50
Veggie, Egg, Cheese and Potatoes.....$7.50

Buttery Fresh Croissant Sandwich.....$10.50
Scrambled eggs, honey ham and Swiss cheese served with skillet potatoes.
Veggie Style—Scrambled Eggs, Spinach, Tomato and Swiss Cheese served with Skillet Potatoes.....$8.50

Breakfast Crepes
Made to order and served with your choice of Greek yogurt or skillet potatoes.
Fresh Fruits.....$9.50
Egg, Veggie & Cheese.....$9.50
Egg with Bacon, Cheese, Sausage or Ham.....$10.75

Chicken Fried Steak Country Style Breakfast
Chicken Fried Steak smothered in Country Gravy served with two eggs.....$11.95
Skillet Potatoes and your choice of 9 grain or sourdough bread

Oatmeal Pancakes----The Best Ever...!!!!!!!!!!!!
Four silver dollar sized pancakes made from slow toasted organic oatmeal.
Served with maple or sugar free syrup.....$7.50
Add Two Eggs Any Style.....$8.75
Add Bacon, Link Sausage or Ham.....$9.50
Add Two Eggs and a Meat Choice.....$10.75

FRENCH TOAST----------Battered and Grilled Golden Brown....

Substitute French Toast for Pancakes----Same Price

***Also available Cinnamon Roll French Toast---------Same Price as Above**

• SUBSTITUTE FRESH FRUIT FOR SKILLET POTATOES ADD $2.75 •

PARFAIT WRAP.....$6.75
Light and delicious! Fresh fruit, Greek yogurt, granola and honey rolled in an original or whole grain wrap.

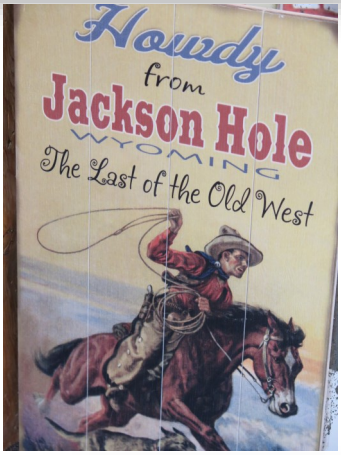
OATMEAL.....Cup $4.75, Bowl.....$6.75
Made from our slow toasted, nutty flavored 100% organic gourmet oatmeal. Choice of skim or 2% or whole milk, brown sugar, raisins, craisins or toasted almonds.

GRANOLA—Our Own Homemade Recipe.....Cup $4.75, Bowl.....$6.75
Your choice of milk

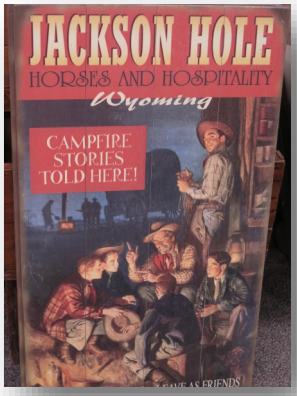
GRANOLA FRESH FRUIT & YOGURT PARFAIT.....$ 6.75

"BREAKFAST SIDES"

Sourdough or 9 grain Toast.....$2.25
Two Eggs - Fried, Poached, or Scrambled.....$2.50
Skillet Potatoes.....$2.95
Fresh Fruit.....Cup 3.75, Bowl.....$4.75
Ham, Bacon, or Link Sausage.....$3.95
English Muffin.....$1.95
Bagels.....With Butter----$2.50.....Cream Cheese.....$3.25



We stayed here (Wyoming Inn) in Jackson for three nights. Jackson (so we soon discovered) is a very popular second home location with great winter skiing and some outrageously expensive property



This really moved us.

This wonderful statue of a native American Indian after a short downpour seemed to have a tear in his eye

The shops in Jackson (town) were amazing) and there were some fascinating art galleries and the shop (featured here) had some unusual wooden furniture , lights and ornaments etc including stuffed animals and many antlers et

With a seating capacity of 750 they pride themselves on serving everybody in under 25 minutes. It is true and it went like clockwork. Boy, were the portions huge...and no alcohol was available but lemonade and coffee were included. Afterwards the family entertained us with humour and singing and everyone really enjoyed the whole evening. We even bought their CD

In he best tourist tradition we went to Bar J Chuckwagon Ranch for a steak cookout and entertainment and it was really great...totally professional and the food was brilliant

Dutch oven biscuits being made before the fun began

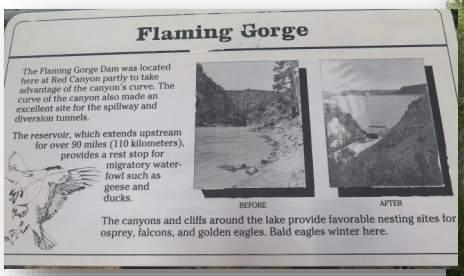
GLASS MUST BE FULL
BEFORE & AFTER DELIVERY
TOKHEIM
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA
AMOUNT OF SALE
$ 0.00
DOLLARS
CENTS
TAX INCLUDED
TOTAL SALES
TOTAL GALLONS
GALLONS DELIVERED
0
CENTS PER GALLON
INCLUDED
MAXIMUM ACCURACY AT ANY RATE OF DELIVERY AT ANY PRESSURE
DIESEL

….No Comment

WYOMING
IF YOU KNOW HOW MANY GUNS YOU HAVE...
YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH!

Just outside Jackson Town is the ski resort of Jackson hole. This is a still-developing area of restaurants, ski lifts and splendid apartments and houses

Photo History



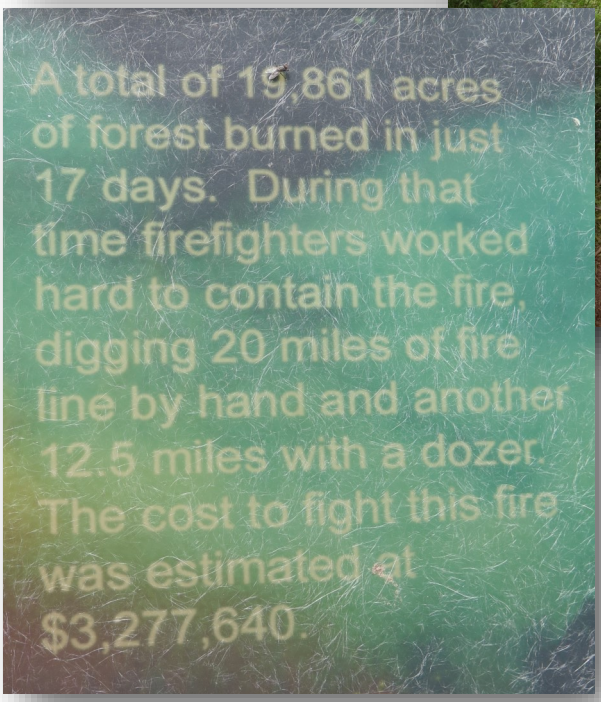
Flaming Gorge

The Flaming Gorge Dam was located here at Red Canyon partly to take advantage of the canyon's curve. The curve of the canyon also made an excellent site for the spillway and diversion tunnels.

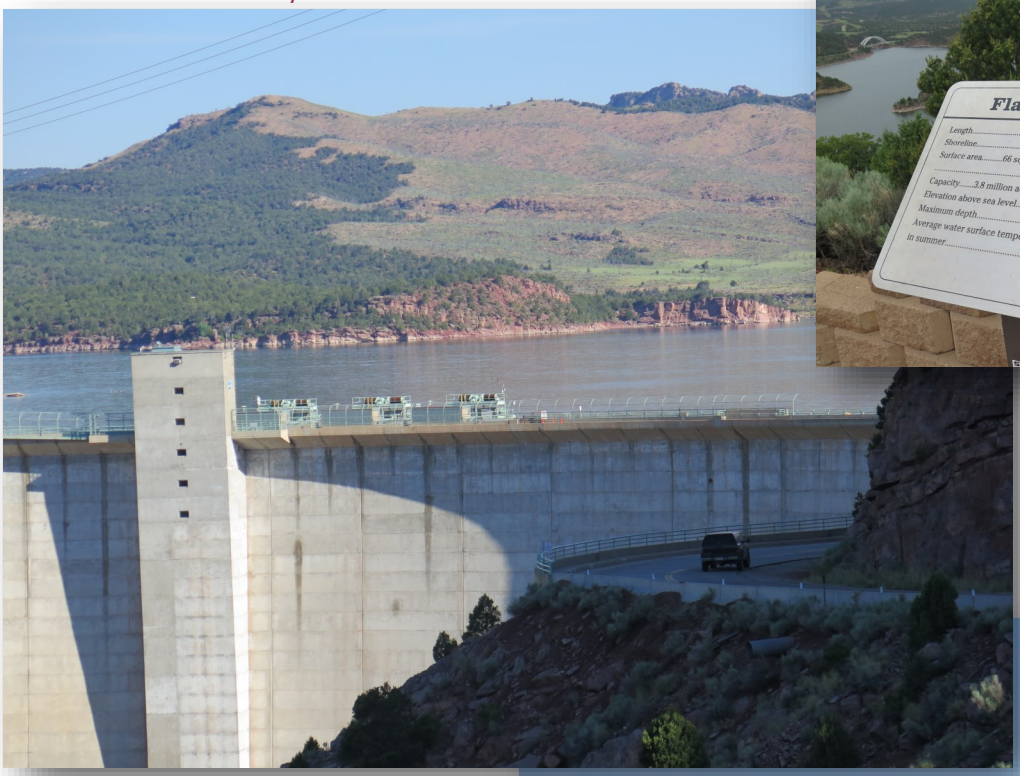
The reservoir, which extends upstream for over 90 miles (110 kilometers), provides a rest stop for migratory waterfowl such as geese and ducks.

BEFORE AFTER

The canyons and cliffs around the lake provide favorable nesting sites for osprey, falcons, and golden eagles. Bald eagles winter here.



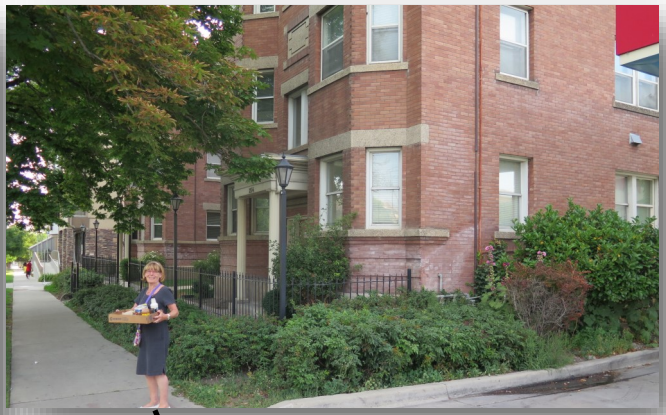
Halfway between Yellowstone & Arches National Park is Flaming Gorge contrasting Utah's Uinta Mountains & the vast Wyoming desserts. It is a wildlife paradise and it is renowned for its fabulous fly fishing. When we approached the Green River we were surrounded by the evidence of the massive fire in 2015. We stayed in a fishing cabin behind the Fly Fishing store



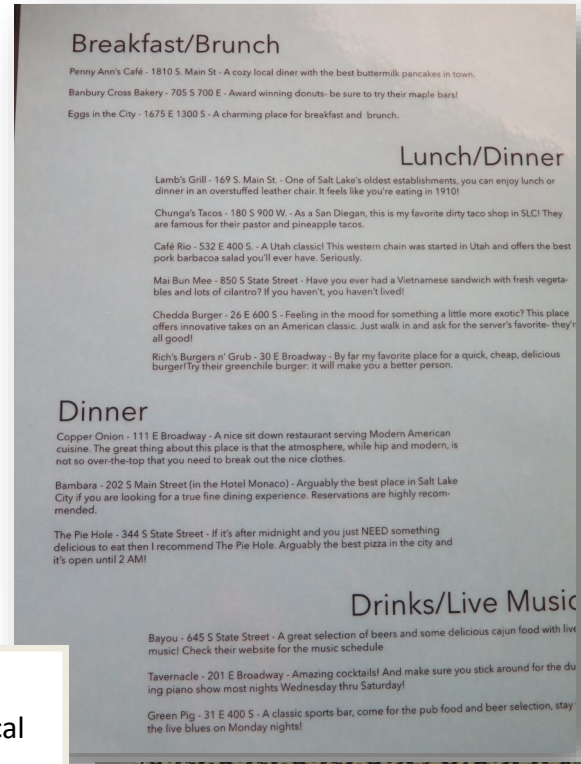
After a great night at Flaming Gorge we took the 191 across the reservoir bridge (in the bottom photo). The reservoir is enormous...91 miles long with a shoreline of over 350 miles. Besides the fishing there are trails, white river rafting, camping and loads of other outdoor pursuits here

It was 2nd July and we hadn't booked accommodation for this stage, forgetting Independence Day was a National holiday so we quickly booked a few stopovers on line. Lynn said she had always wanted to visit Salt Lake City and we managed to book a great Airbnb right in the centre. Lynn was amazed that it was a modern buzzy city and had expected simple people in traditional garb driving around in horse-drawn buggies...I had to gently suggest that maybe it was the Amish of Pennsylvania she was thinking of rather than the Mormons from Utah.... hushed silence followed .....BUT we really enjoyed Salt Lake City nevertheless

Our delightful central Airbnb



Lynn with a great locally sourced breakfast



Breakfast/Brunch

Penny Ann's Café - 1810 S. Main St - A cozy local diner with the best buttermilk pancakes in town.

Banbury Cross Bakery - 705 S 700 E - Award winning donuts- be sure to try their maple bars!

Eggs in the City - 1675 E 1300 S - A charming place for breakfast and brunch.

Lunch/Dinner

Lamb's Grill - 169 S. Main St. - One of Salt Lake's oldest establishments, you can enjoy lunch or dinner in an overstuffed leather chair. It feels like you're eating in 1910!

Chunga's Tacos - 180 S 900 W. - As a San Diegan, this is my favorite dirty taco shop in SLC! They are famous for their pastor and pineapple tacos.

Café Rio - 532 E 400 S. - A Utah classic! This western chain was started in Utah and offers the best pork barbacoa salad you'll ever have. Seriously.

Mai Bun Mee - 850 S State Street - Have you ever had a Vietnamese sandwich with fresh vegetables and lots of cilantro? If you haven't, you haven't lived!

Chedda Burger - 26 E 600 S - Feeling in the mood for something a little more exotic? This place offers innovative takes on an American classic. Just walk in and ask for the server's favorite- they'r all good!

Rich's Burgers n' Grub - 30 E Broadway - By far my favorite place for a quick, cheap, delicious burger!Try their greenchile burger: it will make you a better person.

Dinner

Copper Onion - 111 E Broadway - A nice sit down restaurant serving Modern American cuisine. The great thing about this place is that the atmosphere, while hip and modern, is not so over-the-top that you need to break out the nice clothes.

Bambara - 202 S Main Street (in the Hotel Monaco) - Arguably the best place in Salt Lake City if you are looking for a true fine dining experience. Reservations are highly recommended.

The Pie Hole - 344 S State Street - If it's after midnight and you just NEED something delicious to eat then I recommend The Pie Hole. Arguably the best pizza in the city and it's open until 2 AM!

Drinks/Live Music

Bayou - 645 S State Street - A great selection of beers and some delicious cajun food with live music! Check their website for the music schedule

Tavernacle - 201 E Broadway - Amazing cocktails! And make sure you stick around for the du ing piano show most nights Wednesday thru Saturday!

Green Pig - 31 E 400 S - A classic sports bar, come for the pub food and beer selection, stay the live blues on Monday nights!

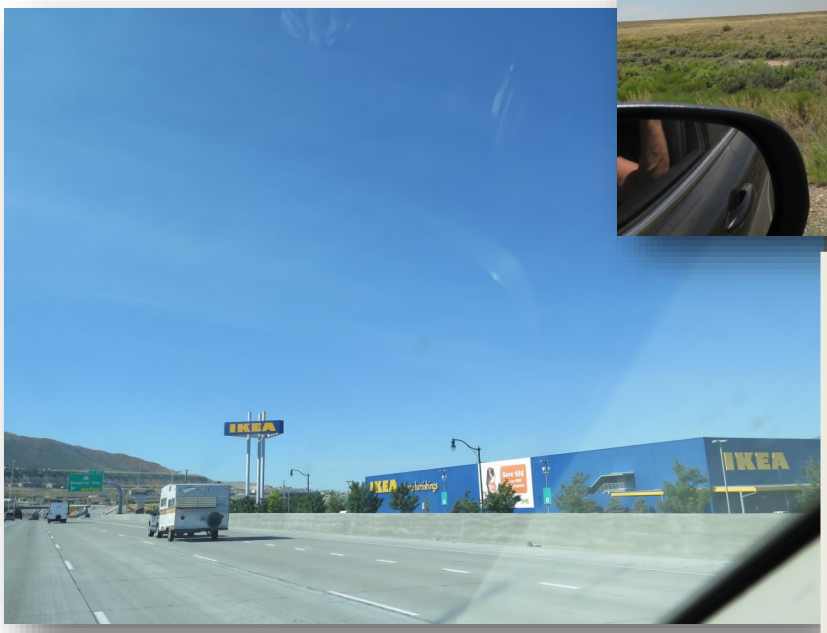
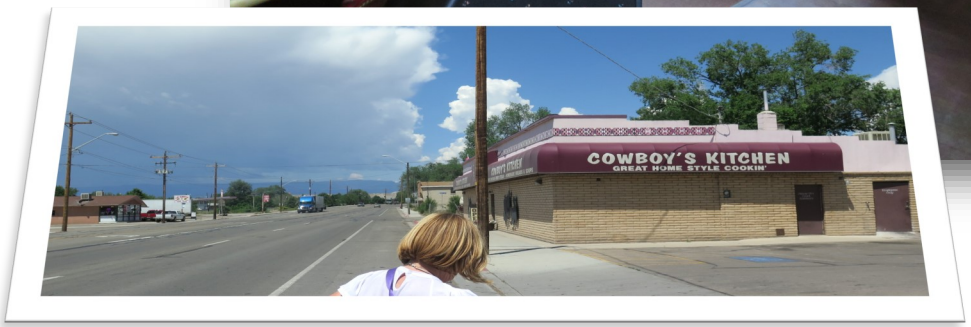
A really busy local restaurant, the Copper Onion. Recommended by our hostess at our Airbnb

The 1.4 million square foot Conference Centre seats 21,200 people in its main auditorium and the volunteer who showed us round said that (as shown in this old photo) it was filled, cleared and refilled twice on that day

It is a beautiful piece of architecture and every comfortable seat has an unobstructed view. The roof garden is partly laid out as a meadow representing the appearance of the land when they arrived originally. The flowing river on the roof is fed by an underground stream and is recycled to the fountains

Attached to the main building on the northwest corner is this 850-seat Conference Centre Theatre that can be used as a dedicated theatre or as an overflow room.

Dark clouds followed us for miles



Leaving Salt Lake City in Utah we drove through a variety of scenery from multi-lane freeways in hot sun to open prairies with impending storms. When we drove through this small town Lynn spotted her ultimate delight—The Cowboy Kitchen. The service and food did not shatter her dreams